

## CHAPTER XV

### EDUCATION AND CULTURE

From the early times, the *gurukula* system of education was prevalent in the region. Learning was highly esteemed and the scholars were greatly respected. Though education was not regarded as the direct concern of the State, it was liberally encouraged with endowments by government authorities and well-to-do families. Largely, oral teaching was in vogue. The students were required to have single-minded devotion to maintain implicit discipline and to have a highly regulated life. The curriculum included not only the Vedas and related sacred works, but also philosophy, grammar, literature, mathematics, logic, ethics and in some cases Ayurveda, veterinary science, astronomy, astrology, etc. The arts of dancing, singing and other fine arts were also taught sometimes. *Agraharas* at Hiremagalur, Khandya Vidyaranyapura etc. were centres of this traditional learning.

The education of the Kshatriyas was different from that of the Brahmins. The former were taught less of the Vedic lore, and the emphasis in their case was on the science of polity and the use of arms and military skill. The learning of the Vaishyas was also mostly professional. Besides reading, writing and arithmetic, their pupils had to know rudiments of commercial geography and practical aspects of trade. Agriculturists and others learnt their occupations from their elders. The artisans imparted their know-how to their children and other apprentices in the crafts practised by them. In the same way, domestic or vocational training was given to girls. Some of these informal methods of training continue even to this day.

There is a fine tradition of Samskrita schools, called *pathashalas*, which have played a useful part in keeping up the flame of learning of the ancient lores through the medium of Samskrita. Several Brahmanic and Veerashaiva monasteries in the district have well patronised learning, and some of them even now continue to give encouragement to educational efforts, both traditional and modern. The existence of Jaina *Mathas* at places like Narasimharajapura in the district evidently shows that the Jaina system of education was also in vogue.

A high state of learning and teaching is revealed by inscriptions dating from the 12th century A.D. From ancient times, there had existed a system of elementary education in schools run by teachers wherever there was a demand for instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic. This was called *Kannata Shikshe* or *balashikshe* as indicated by inscriptions in neighbouring districts of Hassan and Shimoga. During the Vijayanagara times, kings, princes, highly placed officers and wealthy merchants generously helped educational and cultural institutions. After the advent of the Muslims, some of the mosques used to run classes for Muslim pupils. In these schools called *maktabs*, students learnt portions of the holy Koran, besides reading, writing and simple arithmetic, and a few higher schools known as *madrasahs* imparted knowledge of literature, logic, traditional law, history, astronomy and metaphysics. Education of the Muslims received considerable impetus during the regime of Tipu Sultan.

### Modern beginnings

In the old Mysore State, the establishment of a free English school at Mysore by the then ruler Krishnaraja Wodeyar III marked the beginning of modern education. The Government also aided missionary bodies in establishing schools. Systematic activities in the field of education began after the famous "Halifax Despatch" of 1854. Mr. Devereux drew up a scheme of education for the Mysore State, which was sanctioned by the Government of India with some slight modifications. In 1868, B.L. Rice formulated the 'Hobli School System' according to which every *hobli* (a revenue circle), where people came forward to have a school by agreeing to provide a school building, was sanctioned a school. As a result of this, schools came into existence in a majority of the *hoblis*. In 1871-72 each taluk headquarters had a 'vernacular' school. Owing to severe famine of 1877, many of the aided schools were closed down. After the Rendition of the State to the Wodeyar royal family in 1881, there was a steady progress in all directions. European missionaries founded schools at some of the district headquarters. The Catholic missionaries started one such school at Chikmagalur in 1904.

### Growth of literacy

In the early decades of this century, there was a very low percentage of literacy in the district. As per the 1921 census, only about eight per cent of the people were literate. The percentage had increased to 14.9 by 1941 when there were, in all, 53,442 literates (44,113 males and 9,329 females) for a total population of 3,58,290. During the next two decades, there was a further increase in the growth of literacy with 22.9 per cent in 1951 and 27.5 per cent in 1961. During the latter year, it was highest in the Sringeri taluk with 38.5 per cent and lowest in the Kadur taluk with 24.2 per cent.

**Educational levels**

The table given below shows the number of literates and persons possessing various educational qualifications in the district as in 1961.

<i>Educational Level</i>	<i>Urban</i>		<i>Rural</i>	
	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Literates without educational level	19,463	12,400	85,004	30,157
Primary or Junior Basic	2,446	1,476	3,437	1,036
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	3,514	948	3,470	294
Technical Diploma not equal to degree	165	7	—	—
Non-technical Diploma not equal to degree	62	2	—	—
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	402	25	—	—
Engineering	38	—	—	—
Medicine	10	1	—	—
Agriculture	12	—	—	—
Veterinary and dairying	5	—	—	—
Teaching	53	10	—	—
Total	26,170	14,869	91,911	31,487

By 1971, the percentage of literates had increased to 34.93, and the district held the seventh place among the districts of the State with 3.41 per cent more than the State's percentage of 31.52. For a total population of 7,36,647 in 1971, there were, in all, 2,57,305 literates of whom 1,66,890 were males and 90,415 females with 43.88 per cent and 25.37 per cent respectively. As in 1961, in 1971 also the Sringeri taluk was at the top in literacy with 43.71 per cent. The Koppa taluk recorded the lowest percentage which was 30.01. The sub-joined tables show (1) the educational levels in the district as well as (2) the comparative position of percentage of literacy by taluks as in 1971 (see also General Appendices for literacy figures of 1981).

(1)

Educational Level	Urban		Rural	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Literates without educational level	7,044	5,840	38,462	23,961
Primary	11,326	8,629	52,251	27,762
Middle	8,429	6,415	26,512	10,730
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	8,201	3,715	12,357	3,172
Non-technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	5	—	157	—
Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	205	—	137	—
Graduate degree other than technical degree	763	105	751	41
			(Graduate & above)	
Post-graduate degree other than technical degree	130	10	—	—
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree :				
(1) Engineering and Technology	30	—	—	—
(2) Medicine	40	5	—	—
(3) Agriculture, Veterinary and Dairying	20	—	—	—
(4) Teaching	70	30	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,263</b>	<b>24,769</b>	<b>1,30,627</b>	<b>65,666</b>

(2)

## Taluk - wise percentage of literacy (1971)

Name of taluk	Taluk as a whole			Rural only		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Chikmagalur	44.92	27.91	36.65	39.95	20.83	30.11
Kadur	41.31	19.26	30.52	39.32	17.83	28.24
Koppa	46.33	30.92	30.01	44.71	29.14	37.29
Mudigere	41.51	26.31	34.33	39.69	24.42	32.45
Narasimharajapura	41.69	28.98	35.65	39.28	25.14	32.02
Sringeri	50.92	35.75	43.71	47.34	31.64	39.80
Tarikere	45.48	24.24	33.11	42.85	21.20	32.26

Source : Census of India, 1971, Part II — A, General Population Tables

## Percentage of literacy by towns only (1971)

Name of town	Men	Women	Total
Ajjampura	59.28	36.81	48.26
Birur	52.47	34.20	43.57
Chikmagalur	63.87	50.93	57.65
Kadur	52.64	33.72	43.57
Koppa	70.03	58.40	64.65
Mudigere	70.22	58.84	65.08
Narasimharajapura	63.65	52.92	58.52
Sringeri	72.83	63.24	68.44
Tarikere	56.78	38.83	48.16

Source: Census of India, 1971, Part II — A, General Population Tables.

### Administrative set-up

Prior to 1970, all Junior and Senior Primary Schools in the district were administered and controlled by a District Educational Officer who was also responsible for the release of grants to aided high schools, orphanages and hostels in the district. Two Assistant Educational Officers in charge of primary education, one for Chikmagalur Sub-Division and the other for Tarikere Sub-Division assisted the District Educational Officer. At the district Headquarters, there was another Assistant Educational Officer in charge of secondary education, having supervisory jurisdiction over all the secondary schools in the district. The Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Chitradurga Division, Chitradurga, was in charge of administration of all the secondary schools and teachers' training institutions of this district also. There were seven Kannada Range Offices, one in each taluk headquarters, and one Urdu Range Office at Chikmagalur. Each of the ranges was administered by an Inspector of Schools. Seven Deputy Inspectors of Schools assisted the Inspectors of Schools in the work of compulsory primary education and inspection of schools.

### Re-organisation of Department

Since 1956, there has been a rapid expansion in the field of education and a large increase in the number of pupils. It was found that there was some wastage as also ineffectiveness for want of adequate administrative set-up for supervision and inspection. The necessity of strengthening the inspectorates for achieving better standards of education was also pointed out by the Karnataka Pay Commission (1966-68). The Working Group on Educational Planning, Administration and Educational Set-up of the Planning Commission emphasised the need for providing better supervision and guidance for schools. In view of these factors, the State Government re-organised the Department of Public Instruction in June 1970. As a result, an Assistant Educational Officer (Class II) was entrusted with the work of every Range Office at the taluk-level. Graduate Inspectors (one for every 75 schools) were appointed to assist

the Assistant Educational Officers. The Urdu Ranges were attached to the respective Taluk Ranges. The Graduate Urdu Inspectors were entrusted with the work of inspecting the Urdu primary schools.

As per this new set-up, an officer of the rank of a Deputy Director of Public Instruction is the departmental head at the district-level. He is assisted by Educational Officers (who are junior class I officers) at the rate of one such officer for every 50 high schools. There are one Educational Officer, seven Assistant Educational Officers (one for each taluk) assisted by 14 Inspectors in the district. An Academic Wing consisting of five Subject-Inspectors, one each for English, Kannada, Physical Sciences and Mathematics, Biological Sciences and Social Studies, is attached to the office of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction. It provides guidance to subject-teachers. The ministerial staff has also been strengthened proportionately. The Deputy Director of Public Instruction has a Gazetted Assistant who is assisted by three Section Superintendents in the office. He works under the supervision and control of the Joint Director of Public Instruction, Mysore Division, Mysore.

### **General Education**

Pre-primary (nursery) education is mostly managed by private organisations in the State. The general policy of the Government in this behalf has been to encourage and assist these bodies to run the nursery schools. Some *balawadis* have been functioning in rural areas with the assistance of Social Welfare Board also. In respect of the rural pre-primary schools, the Government give a grant-in-aid to the extent of 70 per cent of the authorised expenditure, while in the case of the pre-primary schools of the urban area, it is 50 per cent. Lady teachers with S.S.L.C. qualification and training in nursery education are generally appointed to work in these schools. In 1979-80, there were 124 nursery schools in the district with a pupil strength of 3,139 boys and 2,535 girls under the charge of 121 women and three men teachers.

### **Primary Education**

It is interesting to trace the development of primary education in the last few decades. It is found that in 1924-25, there were 459 primary schools (with classes I to IV) with a total student-strength of 9,758 boys and 2,374 girls in this district. Besides, there were three special schools with 115 boys, and 85 indigenous village schools with 1,304 boys and 87 girls. In that year, the number of middle schools (now called higher primary schools) was 33 with standards V to VIII, having a pupil-strength of 1,456 boys and 104 girls. Later, there was a set-back in the progress of education owing to cuts in expenditure because of the economic depression, resulting in a marked decrease in the number of private schools. In 1940-41, there were 422 primary schools including 21 girls schools, with a pupil-strength of 10,231 boys and 4,245 girls.

The number of middle schools in that year was 25 (including three for girls) with a student-strength of 1,863 boys and 408 girls. In the next few years, there was a considerable improvement in the expansion of schools. Many schools, which were being run by local bodies, were transferred to the Department of Education. It is found that in 1943-44, there were 504 primary schools (of which 19 were for girls) with a pupil-strength of 13,674 boys and 6,313 girls, and 30 middle schools with a student-strength of 2,443 boys and 596 girls. In 1955-56, there were 620 primary schools, 101 up-graded primary schools, 46 New-Type middle schools and 54 middle schools in the district.

Immediately after the formation of the new State in 1956, a special Educational Integration Advisory Committee was formed in December 1956 for reviewing various aspects of the question of bringing about uniformity in pattern of education throughout the State. The recommendations of this committee were accepted by the Government and orders were passed in 1959. This ushered in a new era in the sphere of primary and secondary stage of education, which were re-organised on the basis of a seven-year course of primary and a four-year course of secondary education. Later, the duration of secondary education was changed to three-year high school and a two-year pre-university course. According to the new pattern, the lower primary schools consist of standards I to IV, while the higher primary schools comprise either I to VII or V to VII standards. The position as in 1960-61 was as given in the sub-joined table.

Types of Schools	No. of Schools	No. of pupils			No. of teachers		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Men	Women	Total
Lower Primary Schools	785	31,736	18,905	50,641	1,210	133	1,343
Higher Primary Schools (including Middle Schools)	170	6,894	2,592	9,486	781	105	886
Total	955	38,630	21,497	60,127	1,991	238	2,229

After the introduction of compulsory primary education in 1961, rapid progress was achieved. At a number of places, new primary schools were opened. Consequently, there was a proportionate increase in the number of teachers also. By 1962-63, the new syllabus was introduced in all the primary schools. As a result, primary education became an integrated course of seven years from standards I to VII. All those schools having standards either from I to VII or V to VII have been called as higher primary schools since then. The tables given below show the taluk-wise particulars as in 1978-79.

## (1) Lower Primary Schools

Taluk	No. of Schools	No. of pupils			No. of teachers
		Boys	Girls	Total	
Chikmagalur	206	12,633	11,087	23,720	291
Kadur	197	13,324	11,127	24,451	278
Koppa	84	4,539	3,801	8,340	90
Mudigere	120	5,614	4,557	10,171	154
Narasimharajapura	61	3,302	2,860	6,162	67
Sringeri	48	1,898	1,671	3,569	58
Tarikere	143	10,121	8,935	19,056	205
Total	859	51,431	44,038	95,469	1,143

Source: Office of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Chikmagalur

## (2) Higher Primary Schools

Taluk	No. of Schools	No. of pupils			No. of teachers
		Boys	Girls	Total	
Chikmagalur	90	4,680	3,547	8,227	533
Kadur	88	4,729	2,868	7,597	506
Koppa	43	1,990	1,432	3,422	185
Mudigere	51	2,040	1,529	3,569	179
Narasimharajapura	26	1,216	934	2,150	109
Sringeri	19	1,066	763	1,829	66
Tarikere	68	3,896	2,695	6,591	446
Total	385	19,617	13,768	33,385	2,024

Source: Office of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Chikmagalur

In 1978-79, there were 72 Urdu primary schools, 22 in Chikmagalur, 16 in Kadur, one in Koppa, 7 in Mudigere, 2 in Narasimharajapura, one in Sringeri and 23 in Tarikere taluks, under the charge of 197 teachers, with a student strength of 5,469. In that year, there were 12 Tamil primary schools 4 in Chikmagalur, one in Koppa, one in Mudigere, one in Narasimharajapura and 5 in Tarikere taluks, with a pupil-strength of 857 under the charge of 20 teachers. There was one Telugu primary school at Tarikere with 37 pupils.

**Compulsory primary education**

In 1913, compulsory education was introduced in the State, by the Compulsory Education Act, 1913. In 1915, an order was issued by the Government to admit the "untouchables" in all the public schools of the State. The principle was that no pupil should be denied admission to the Government school or a school run by public funds on the basis of caste. As a result of this, the first school which admitted Harijans was in Sringeri Jagir. Therefore, this order was known as the Sringeri Order.



Compulsory primary education was introduced in *Kasaba hobli* (*i.e.*, Chikmagalur hobli) of Chikmagalur taluk from the year 1947-48. It was extended to the entire taluk of Chikmagalur during the year 1948-49. After the attainment of independence, gradual efforts have been made to expand and improve primary education with a view to making it universal, free and compulsory. At the suggestion of the Union Government, the State Government commenced the implementation of compulsory primary education programme by stages starting with the children of the age-group 6-7 in 1961-62. It was planned to cover the entire age-group of 6-11 before the end of the Third Five-Year Plan. In order to achieve this objective, the provisions of the Karnataka Compulsory Primary Education Act, 1961, were brought into force throughout the State with effect from the 1st August 1961. Some of the important provisions of this Act are: (a) Establishment of primary schools within a walking distance of 1.6 km. from the home of every child; (b) Making it the responsibility of every parent to see to the regular attendance of his children at an approved school; (c) Appointment of attendance authorities to enforce enrolment of children; (d) Prevention of employment of children so that they may be enabled to attend schools regularly; and (e) Constitution of primary school panchayat courts to try offences under the Act.

All the children that attain 5 years and 10 months on 22nd May of each year are required to attend approved schools. But there is also provision for admission of children who complete the age of 5 years, on voluntary basis. Every year in the month of December, enumeration of children of age-group 6-11 years is conducted by the Department of Public Instruction to assess the number of children who should be enrolled. The table given hereunder shows the number of children enumerated and enrolled and the percentage of enrolment in the district during the year 1978-79 (as on 31st March, 1979).

<i>Category</i>	<i>Enumeration</i>	<i>Enrolment</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Boys	44,253	39,929	90%
Girls	39,437	35 021	89%
Total	83,690	74,950	90%

*Source* : Statistical Brochure, 1979, Commissioner for Public Instruction, Bangalore.

With the main purpose of promoting the school attendance and thus helping to make the universal, free and compulsory primary education a full success, the Mid-day Meals Scheme was started in the State in 1963. Since then, the Department of Public Instruction has been providing mid-day meals to school children during the intervals. The table given hereunder indicates the taluk-wise number of lower and higher primary schools and number of pupils benefited by this scheme in Chikmagalur district as on 31st December, 1979.

<i>Taluk</i>	<i>Lower and Higher Primary Schools</i>	
	<i>No. of Schools</i>	<i>No. of Pupils</i>
Chikmagalur	56	5,870
Kadur	78	15, 40
Koppa	19	1,228
Mudigere	34	2,027
Narasimharajapura	31	1 527
Sringeri	19	1,000
Tarikere	51	6,640
Total	288	34,032

Under a Scheme of Attendance Scholarships, the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, pupils of I to VII standards are being given slates, books and clothes worth Rs 40 each. During 1978-79, 550 pupils of urban areas and 1,050 of rural areas were benefited under this scheme involving an expenditure of Rs 64,000. During 1978-79, another sum of Rs 21,000 was spent towards free supply of text books to 2,100 Scheduled Castes' pupils in the district. Every year, merit scholarships are being awarded to the pupils of rural areas, who pass with high credits the VII standard common examination conducted at district-level. Such pupils are accommodated in certain selected high schools of the district for their higher studies.

### **Basic education**

Under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi, experiments in basic education were initiated before the attainment of independence. The principle underlying the Basic Education Scheme is that the primary education must be based on some suitable craft followed in the area. The pattern of basic education seeks to provide full and free scope to the physical, social and cultural development of pupils, so as to enable them to contribute their utmost to the society. Crafts such as agriculture, gardening, spinning and weaving, sericulture, wood-craft, smithy, etc., were taught in the Basic Schools. Teachers for these schools were drawn from the Basic Training Institutions, where they were taught general principles and methods of education along with certain crafts. There were 67 Junior Basic Schools in the district during the year 1962-63. Owing to change in the revised syllabi, the number of basic schools had gone down to 14 by 1978-79. The following table shows the details of basic schools in the district as in 1978-79.

<i>Taluk</i>	<i>No. of schools</i>	<i>No. of pupils</i>	<i>No. of teachers</i>
Chikmagalur	3	1,120	3
Kadur	2	863	3
Koppa	2	358	1
Mudigere	2	795	1
Narasimharajapura	1	212	2
Sringeri	1	490	2
Tarikere	3	1,412	3
Total	14	5,250	15

### Reoriented syllabi

With the object of converting a large number of non-basic primary schools into the basic type, the syllabus for teacher-training institutions was revised with effect from 1960-61. It was also decided to change all the teacher-training institutions into the basic pattern. All the primary schools (including the Basic Schools) with I to IV standards were called as Lower Primary Schools, and those with V to VII standards (with or without the first four standards) were named as Higher Primary Schools. In 1959-60, new syllabi were introduced for standards I and II in all the primary schools. They were extended to standards III and IV from 1960-61, to V and VI from 1961-62 and to VII from 1962-63. A broad-based general education, consisting of a language study, core-subjects (general mathematics, science and social studies), arts and crafts, common activities and physical education, was imparted in the seven years' primary course. Kannada, the regional language, was made an additional subject in non-Kannada schools from standard IV and onwards, while English was introduced from standard V, and Hindi from standard VI. Further, a General Curriculum Committee appointed in 1969 recommended inclusion of work-experience, moral education, health education and group-singing, and also stressed the importance of physical education. These changes were tried in selected schools. The State Advisory Board for Primary Education considered the results of the trial and accepted the recommendations. Thereafter, the revised syllabi were implemented in primary schools under a phased programme from 1974-75 to 1977-78.

### SECONDARY EDUCATION

During the year 1924-25, the district had only one high school with a pupil-strength of 177 boys and one girl. By the year 1943-44, there were three high schools (including one high school for girls), with a total student-strength of 364 boys and 62 girls. Thirteen years later, i.e., in 1956-57, it is found that the number of high schools had increased to 14, and then by 1960-61 to 17 (including higher secondary schools). From 1961 onwards, there has been a tremendous progress in the field of secondary education, and the position in 1979 was that there were

as many as 78 secondary schools (including ten composite schools) in the district.

### Municipal and Board High Schools

In 1928, a scheme of starting municipal high schools was initiated. In 1961-62, there were three Municipal High Schools for boys, whereas in 1970-71 the number was seven of which two were for girls. The District Boards in the State also came forward in 1948-49 to start new high schools. They evinced interest in the development of secondary education in the rural areas. As in 1961-62, there were six District Board High Schools for boys. The Taluk Development Boards took over the management of these schools after abolition of the District Boards. In 1970-71, the number of Local Board High Schools had increased to 12 of which one was for girls. The next year, i.e., in 1971-72, both Municipal and Taluk Development Board High Schools were taken over by the Government.

### Aided and unaided high schools

There are several private organisations which are running high schools in the district. They receive Government grant as laid down in the educational grant-in-aid code. A cent per cent teaching grant is being given by the Government to aided high schools since 1967, besides building and equipment grants in deserving cases. The officers of the Department of Public Instruction inspect these institutions, and their accounts are subject to audit. As in 1970-71, there were 17 boys and seven girls aided high schools spread all over the district. In that year, the number of unaided high schools run by private agencies in the district was five and all of which were for boys. In some of the boys high schools, girls are also admitted. In 1962, there were 25 high schools in the district giving a ratio of one for a population of 23,800. As against this, there were, in 1971-72, 57 high schools each serving, on an average, 12,923 people. The management-wise number of secondary schools and their total strength of pupils and teachers were as follows in 1979.

#### (a) Secondary School

Category of Management	Composite High Schools*		High Schools		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Government	2	—	2	—	4
Municipal (taken over to Government)	—	—	2	—	2
Taluk Development Board (taken over to Government)	8	—	11	3	22
Aided	2	—	32	8	42
Unaided	—	—	7	1	8
Total	12	—	54	12	78

(\*Composite High Schools are those to which Junior College sections are attached)

Source : D.D.P.'s Office, Chikmagalur

## (b) Pupils enrolled

<i>Standard</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
VIII	5,199	3,136	8,335
IX	3,739	2,062	5,801
X	2,865	1,744	4,609
XI	1,453	655	2,108
XII	990	499	1,489
Total	14,246	8,096	22,342

Source : Statistical Brochure 1978-79, Commissioner for Public Instruction, Bangalore.

## (c) Teachers—1978-79

<i>Category</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Out of the Total</i>			
				<i>Graduates</i>	<i>Post graduates</i>	<i>S.C.</i>	<i>S.T.</i>
Trained	453	114	567	257	71	5	5
Untrained	177	33	210	48	80	—	2
Total	630	147	777	305	151	5	7

Source : Statistical Brochure 1978-79, Commissioner for Public Instruction, Bangalore.

From the school year 1966-67, secondary education in the State was made free for all the students, irrespective of the income of their parents.

**Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kudremukh**

Kendriya Vidyalaya (Central School), Kudremukh, was started at Malleshwara near Kalasa (project area) in the year 1977. It is fully aided by the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd., Kudremukh. All the ten standards from I to X were started simultaneously in the same year in order to accommodate all the school-going children of the employees in the project area. Started with a pupil-strength of 31 boys and 23 girls and manned by eleven teachers, the institution had a pupil-strength of 165 boys and 147 girls and 16 members on the teaching staff in the year 1980. The school is reputed to have maintained a good academic standard by obtaining cent per cent passes in the AISSE (All-India Secondary School Examination, conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi) during the years 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80 continuously. In addition to general subjects included in the curriculum, socially useful productive works like Electric Gadgets and their maintenance and also their repairs for boys, and sewing, needlework and embroidery for girls are being taught in the school.

**S.S.L.C. results**

The State Secondary Education and Examination Board conducts a public examination called the Secondary School Leaving Certificate Examination at the end of the tenth year of school education. The sub-joined statement indicates the total number of examinees and the number of

passes (including repeaters) for the district during some recent years.

Year		No. of examinees	No. of passes	Percentage	District Rank
1975	Boys	2,868	934	32.6	17
	Girls	1,482	571	38.5	
	Total	4,350	1,505	34.6	
1977	Boys	3,921	1,348	34.4	16
	Girls	1,865	773	41.4	
	Total	5,786	2,121	36.7	
1979	Boys	4,790	1,783	37.2	13
	Girls	2,445	1,008	41.2	
	Total	7,235	2,791	38.6	
1980	Boys	5,043	1,930	38.3	15
	Girls	2,500	1,124	45.0	
	Total	7,543	3,054	40.5	

The figures given hereunder show the position of candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Nomadic Tribes and others in respect of S.S.L.C. examination for the years 1975 and 1980 (freshers only).

Category		No. of examinees	No. of passes	Percentage of passes
<b>1975 April</b>				
Scheduled Castes	B	241	36	14.9
	G	61	11	18.0
	T	302	47	15.6
Scheduled Tribes	B	8	3	37.5
	G	5	2	40.0
	T	13	5	38.5
Nomadic Tribes	B	7	3	42.9
	G	6	2	33.3
	T	13	5	38.5
<b>1980 April</b>				
Scheduled Castes	B	472	114	24.15
	G	133	37	27.82
	T	605	151	24.96
Scheduled Tribes	B	25	6	24.00
	G	9	6	66.67
	T	34	12	35.29
Backward Tribes	B	62	17	27.42
	G	16	9	56.25
	T	78	26	33.33
Backward Community	B	942	307	32.59
	G	485	182	37.53
	T	1,427	489	34.27
Backward Castes	B	432	134	31.02
	G	102	33	31.43
	T	537	167	31.10
Special Groups	B	1,373	582	42.39
	G	706	321	45.47
	T	2,079	903	43.43
General	B	1,744	770	44.15
	G	1,047	536	51.19
	T	2,791	1,306	46.79
All Castes	B	5,050	1,930	38.22
	G	2,501	1,124	44.94
	T	7,551	3,054	40.44

B = Boys; G = Girls; T = Total

**Pre-University education**

In 1971-72, the one-year pre-university course was replaced by a two-year pre-university course in the State. The secondary schools, having two-year pre-university education course, were renamed as Junior Colleges with effect from August 1972. As in 1980-81, there were twelve Junior Colleges in the district with a student strength of 2,236 boys and girls of which two were managed by private agencies. The academic control and conduct of examinations for the pre-university classes vest with the Board of Pre-University Education in Karnataka, the Director of Pre-University Education being the Secretary of the Board. The Joint Director of Public Instruction, Mysore Division, Mysore, has the administrative control over the Junior Colleges.

**Educational and vocational guidance**

In secondary schools, educational and vocational guidance programmes are receiving a greater attention. The State Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance is organising these programmes. Under one of its programmes, secondary school teachers are being trained as career masters for guiding pupils in solving their problems, educational, vocational and personal. The students are being helped to know the "world of work," so that they can choose proper courses or vocations after leaving the schools. The guidance activities also aim at minimising failures in examinations by improving the study-habits of pupils. Upto the end of 1977-78, 46 teachers from Chikmagalur district were trained as career masters.

**Commerce Education**

Training in English and Kannada typewriting and shorthand is imparted in private commerce institutes which conduct classes generally in the mornings and evenings and prepare candidates for commerce examinations. Till recently, there was a separate State Board for Commerce Education and Examinations, which prescribed courses and conducted examinations. From 1973, these functions have been entrusted to the Karnataka Secondary Education and Examination Board itself.

As in 1980, there were 16 commerce institutes functioning in the district with a student-strength of 1,305 men and 981 women under the charge of 34 men and nine women teachers. Of the 16 institutes, four institutes were at Chikmagalur, two at Tarikere and one each at Birur, Kadur, Kalasa, Koppa, Balehonnur, Mudigere, Narasimharajapura, Sringeri, Ajjampura and Jayapura. In all, as many as 1,181 candidates appeared for the several commerce examinations of May 1980, of whom 651 were successful.

### Higher Education

There had been no facilities for higher education in Chikmagalur district until the year 1949, when the University of Mysore started a collegiate institution at Chikmagalur for teaching a two-year intermediate course. Eleven years later, this Intermediate College became a full-fledged college. In addition to this institution, there are now three other colleges, namely, (1) Sri Jagadguru Chandrashekhara Bharati Memorial College, Sringeri, (2) Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial College, Birur and (3) Sri Taralabalu Jagadguru College for women, Chikmagalur. A brief account of each of these colleges is given in the following paragraphs.

#### I.D.S.G. Government College, Chikmagalur

The Malnad Education Society (Regd.) started the degree classes during the year 1962 and transferred them along with their equipment to the Government, in the same year. With the taking over of the degree classes, the Government Intermediate College became a full-fledged college. Formerly, the college was housed in a Sandal Kothi and in District Board Buildings. Later in 1966-67 when it was located in a new spacious building constructed by the Malnad Education Society with the help of donations from philanthropists, it was named as Indavara Dodda Siddalinge Gowda Government College, Chikmagalur.

In 1949, there were only 63 students including 12 girls for the I year Intermediate class under the charge of one Superintendent and eight lecturers. Only two combinations—one in science (PCM) and the other in arts (HEL) were offered to the students. In 1960, this institution came under the control of the Directorate of Collegiate Education. In 1979-80, it had on its rolls 1,337 students of whom 132 were girls under the charge of a Principal, 3 Readers, 51 Lecturers and one Physical Culture Instructor. The college offers pre-university and degree courses in science, arts and commerce. The languages taught are English, Kannada, Urdu, Samskrita and Hindi. It has well-equipped laboratories for the departments of physics, chemistry, botany and zoology, and a library which contains about 26,000 books. The college is encouraging students to take active part in literary, sports, N.C.C., N.S.S. and other activities. It publishes an annual college miscellany called "Manikya Dhara".

#### J.C.B.M. College, Sringeri

Sri Jagadguru Chandrashekhara Bharati Memorial College, Sringeri, was founded in 1965 by the joint efforts of the Academy of General Education, Manipal, and Bharathi Vidya Samsthe, Sringeri, with the main object of providing facilities for higher education to the students of the *malnad* area. It is named after the previous pontiff of the celebrated monastery of Sringeri. During the first year, the college had 82 students under the charge of 12 members of teaching staff. By 1979-80, the



student-strength had gone upto 844 including 230 girls. There were 34 men and women on the teaching staff. Of the 844 students, 378 boys and 127 girls were studying in P.U.C. classes and 236 boys and 103 girls in degree classes.

The college has become an attractive centre of learning for foreign students also. In 1979-80, out of 844 students studying in the college, 96 were from the overseas. There were 58 students from Malaysia, 25 from South Africa, six from Sri Lanka, two each from Tanzania and New Zealand and one each from Kenya, Singapore and U.S.A. Of these 96 students, 93 were in P.U.C. classes and 3 in degree classes. The college is managed by the Sri Jagadguru Chandrashekhara Bharati Memorial College Trust consisting of a president, a secretary and ten members, the Principal being the Secretary of the Trust. It is housed in its own building constructed at a cost of about rupees seven lakhs. It has laboratories for physics, chemistry, botany and zoology departments, a good library which contains about seventeen thousand books worth about 2 lakhs of rupees. The students are being encouraged to participate in sports, games, debates, etc. A college magazine called "Bhamati" is brought out annually.

In 1972, a hostel for accommodating 125 students was constructed. With the help of aid from the University Grants Commission, a teachers' hostel consisting of eight suites has been also built. In addition, the management has constructed three twin-quarters for teachers and a separate quarters for the Principal.

#### **P.J.N.M. College, Birur**

The Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial College, Birur, was established during the year 1969-70 by the Sri Veda Academy of Education (Regd.), Kadur-Birur. To start with, the college offered Arts and Commerce subjects in P.U.C. and I Year degree classes. Science courses were introduced in 1972-73. During the first year, the student-strength was 166 including 23 girls under the charge of ten members of the teaching staff including the Principal. By 1979-80, the student-strength had increased to 868 including 247 girls and the number of teachers to 29 including the Principal. The college is at present housed in a rented building. It has laboratories for physics, chemistry and biology. Its library contains about 9,424 books. The students are being encouraged to participate in sports, games, N.C.C., literary and cultural activities. The college is bringing out two magazines called "Kaladarshini" and "Vanijya Shilpi". The institution has acquired land in Birur-Kaval where it is to put up a building of its own.

#### **S. T. J. College for Women, Chikmagalur**

Women's education received a fillip when Sree Taralabalu Jagadguru College for Women was established at Chikmagalur in 1972 by the

Sri Taralabalu Jagadguru Vidya Samsthe of Sirigere (Chitradurga district). The college commenced functioning with 32 students in pre-university and degree classes of arts course. Later, the commerce course was added. In 1979-80, the student-strength was 676 of whom 313 were in P.U.C., 257 in B.A. and 106 in B.Com. classes. There were 29 teachers for the degree classes, of whom 24 were men and five women. The college is located in a rented building. It has a library containing about 2,847 books. An annual magazine is also brought out by the college.

#### PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

##### Adi Chunchanagiri Institute of Technology

An Engineering College called Adi Chunchanagiri Institute of Technology was started in Chikmagalur town during September, 1980, by the Adi Chunchanagiri Shikshana Trust, headed by the Swamiji of Adi Chunchanagiri Kshetra in Nagamangala taluk of Mandya District. The Institute, affiliated to the University of Mysore, had admitted 120 students in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Courses during 1980-81. In 1981-82, 160 students were admitted to the Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and Electronics and Communication Courses. There are, one principal, two professors, 15 lecturers, nine non-teaching staff and 24 office staff.

##### Government Polytechnic, Chikmagalur

With a view to providing technical education to the students of this *malnad* district, a Government Polytechnic (called Dharmaprakash Aralaguppa Chandre Gowda Ploytechnic) was established at Chikmagalur in 1958. The institution was started with a diploma course each in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering having an intake capacity of 60, 30 and 30 students respectively. Later on in 1971-72, short-term courses in electrical serviceman and pump mechanic trades were introduced. As in 1979-80, the class-wise student-strength was as given below

Course	Class			Total
	I year	II year	III year	
Civil Engineering	47	32	30	109
Electrical Engineering	46	31	19	96
Mechanical Engineering	48	38	33	119
Total	141	101	82	324

There were eight students for certificate courses, five for electrical servicemen trade and three for pump mechanic trade. The teaching staff in 1979-80 consisted of two Heads of Section, nine Lecturers, seven

Assistant Lecturers, one Instructor and four Assistant Instructors, besides the Principal. The Polytechnic was housed in private buildings till 1963-64, when it was shifted to its own premises costing Rs 12 lakhs. It has well-equipped laboratories and workshops, and a library containing about 5,300 books under three sections, namely, (1) Students' Library, (2) Government Book Bank and (3) Students' Aid Book Bank. Boarding and lodging facilities are provided for 180 students. The institution is also running a co-operative society. Nearly fifty per cent of students are given scholarships or other concessions.

#### **Manjaiah Setty Narasimha Setty College of Education, Chikmagalur**

The Manjaiah Setty Narasimha Setty College of Education, Chikmagalur was started by the Malnad Education Society of Chikmagalur in September 1981. The College has a student strength of 135, managed by seven lecturers and one principal.

#### **Teachers' Training Institute, Chikmagalur**

The Government Teachers' Training Institute for men, Chikmagalur, was brought into being in March 1955 with the main objective of providing professional training facilities to in-service teachers of primary schools. To start with, there was only Teachers' Certificate Lower Course. In 1963-64, Teachers' Certificate Higher Course of one year was introduced which was changed into a two-year course from June 1966. The Basic Training Institute, which was being run at Birur, was shifted to Chikmagalur town and merged with the Government Teachers' Training Institute in 1971.

The institution is imparting orientation training in science to primary school teachers handling I to VII standards. After the introduction of the new curriculum in primary schools from 1974-75, inservice training is also being imparted in accordance with the new syllabus, methodology and evaluation. In June 1976, a summer-cum-correspondence course was started for the benefit of S.S.L.C. passed untrained teachers. Two main crafts, namely, agriculture, and spinning and weaving are taught in this institute. A plot of four hectares with a well, equipped with a pump set, is used for teaching the agriculture craft. In 1979-80, the number of trainees was as detailed below :

<i>Class</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
T.C.H. I Year	58	81	139
T.C.H. II Year	60	66	126
Total	118	147	265

These students were under the charge of one Superintendent, 13 Assistant Masters, one Kannada Pandit, one Hindi Pandit, one Agricultural Instructor, one Cotton Craft Instructor, one Drawing Teacher

and one Physical Education Teacher. Of the 20 members on the teaching staff 16 were men and four women. In 1970, a new building was constructed to house this institution at a cost of rupees five and a half lakhs. It has also hostel facilities. There is a library containing 5,513 books worth about Rs 8,000.

#### **Fatima Tailoring Institute, Chikmagalur**

The ladies wing of the Majils-E-Niswan, Chikmagalur, started the Fatima Tailoring Institute in 1975 for the benefit of girls. The number of trainees in 1979 was 32 as against 20 in 1975. They were under the charge of two teachers, undergoing a two-year certificate course in tailoring. The institute is located in a private building.

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

A Physical Education Wing is attached to the office of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Chikmagalur. A District Superintendent of Physical Education, who works under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, is in charge of it. Taluk and district-level sports and seminars, coaching camps, film shows on physical education and sports, etc., are organised by this wing. The Superintendent of Physical Education also supervises and guides the physical education activities of the schools and the Government Teachers' Training Institute in the district. There are several traditional *garadimanes* at Tarikere, Birur and other places which give coaching in wrestling.

#### **Gymnasium at Chikmagalur**

The Gymnasium of Government High School, Chikmagalur, founded in 1947-48, has been a noted popular institution serving the youths in respect of physical education. It was officially recognised in 1959. It is well-equipped for imparting training in various aspects of gymnastics and has created a keen interest in physical culture among the students. Late M. Pushparaj, the founder-instructor, was largely responsible for establishing and popularising this institution. It has grown well and celebrated its silver jubilee in 1976. About eighty students were on its rolls (1980). The classes are conducted both in the mornings and evenings. Several of the gymnasts trained in this institution have won laurels at National, State and University-levels in best physique competitions, wrestling bouts and other athletic meets. One of them Shri T. R. Manjunatha Hegde, won "Shree Dasara", "Shree Mysore", "Shree Dakshina Bharat" Gold Medals and "Bharat Kumar" championship award and All-India University and Ceylon University Gold Medals in recent years. Another gymnast, Shri K. V. Govindaraj Kamath, secured "Shree Dasara" award.

### Bharat Scouts and Guides

The Government of old Mysore State recognised scouting as a youth movement in 1917. Three years later, this activity was taken up at Chikmagalur. Under the guidance of Shri S. Venkataramaiah, the first District Scouts Commissioner, the scout movement in the district received considerable momentum and induced teachers, officials and members of the public to evince interest in it. The first State Scout Rally was held at Chikmagalur in 1920. Several training camps were arranged by the District Scout Association. After the achievement of independence, the organisation of the Scouts of the old Mysore State was merged with the Bharat Scouts and Guides. A Technical Assistant was appointed at the district headquarters to guide the training programmes in a systematic way. The scouting activities spread wider, and a number of local troops were formed. In 1965, a Divisional-level training camp was organised at Chikmagalur for 250 teachers. In 1975, a building was constructed with the help of a matching grant of Rs 36,000 from the State Government. In 1980, 52 Scouts, 28 Cubs and 30 Guide Units were functioning in the district. There were four open (independent) units three at Chikmagalur and one at Tarikere. "President's Scouts and Guides" are being sent from this district to Delhi every year to receive certificates from the President of India. Recently, three selected scouts from this district were deputed (one each) to attend the Rover Meet in Australia, the Boys Camp at Artex (U.S.S.R.) and the International Jamboree in Malaysia. There are eleven Assistant District Commissioners (Scouts), six Assistant District Commissioners (Guides) and 52 Scout Masters and 21 Cub Masters. The District Scouts and Guides Association has six local associations. During the year 1980 there were 1,679 scouts, 615 cubs and 905 guides in the district.

### SANSKRITA EDUCATION

Before the modern period, Sanskrita played a highly important part in education. It was nurtured and patronised by learned men, royal dynasties, officers, *mathas*, temples and wealthy persons. It continues to have a great importance for literary and cultural studies, besides for religious and spiritual spheres. Its study has been receiving considerable assistance from the State Government. The State Sanskrita Education Board advises the Department of Public Instruction and the Government in all matters relating to Sanskrita education. While the Director of Public Instruction is the Chairman of the Sanskrita Education Board, the Senior Assistant Director of Public Instruction for Sanskrita is its Secretary. The Secondary Education and Examinations Board conducts the Sanskrita examinations and issues certificates under its seal.

In 1980, there were one Sanskrita college at Sringeri and seven other Sanskrita *pathashalas* at Birur, Kadur, Tarikere, Halavalli (near Kalasa), Kigga (near Sringeri), Ajjampura and Chikmagalur. There

is also facility for teaching Samskrita as one of the subjects in some of the secondary schools and colleges of the district. The inspection of Samskrita *pathashalas* and Samskrita classes in secondary schools is done by an Inspector of Samskrita Schools attached to the office of the Joint Director of Public Instruction, Mysore Division, Mysore.

Shri Surasaraswati Sabha (Regd.) of Sringeri coaches pupils for five Samskrita examinations, namely, *Prathama*, *Dwiteeya*, *Triteeya*, *Tureeya* and *Pravasha*, which are conducted by this Sabha twice a year in February and September. These examinations are held at about 30 centres in Bangalore city and at about 50 other centres in Karnataka and one each at Kasargod in Kerala and Salem in Tamil Nadu. At a time totally roughly 5,000 candidates appear for the five examinations, of whom, on an average about 4,000 pass the examinations. The services of Samskrita teachers of local high schools and colleges are utilised for coaching the students. The text books for these courses are published by the Sabha itself. It has also published "Shabda Kosha", "Dhatu Kosha" and some book-lets containing the stories of great personages, under the title "Shishu Sahitya Mala" for the benefit of children. The Sabha has a general council of members and a committee for carrying on the various activities.

#### **Sanskrita College, Sringeri**

The famous Sringeri Matha established a Samskrita institution called Shri Sadvidya Sanjeevini Pathashala in 1894 under the guidance of the then pontiff Shri Sachchidananda Shivabhinava Nrisimha Bharati Swamigalu. The State Government has recognised it as a Samskrita college. This institution has been imparting Samskrita education to students whose number varies from about 85 to 100 every year. The subjects taught are the *Vedas*, *Shastras* and *Sahitya*. After the completion of two years of preliminary study of Samskrita language, a student can choose his content course. There is also provision for teaching logic (*tarka*), higher grammer (*vyakarana*) and dramatic literature (*nataka*). In addition to regular studies in this institution, the students can also appear for the different Samskrita examinations conducted by the State Government. The institution is located in an independent building in the premises of the monastery. It has a well-equipped library containing valuable books. The management provides free lodging, boarding, uniforms, text books and scholarships to all the students. The staff consists of ten members including a Principal and three teachers each for the *Vedas*, the *Shastras* and *Sahitya*.

#### **ADULT EDUCATION**

The erstwhile Mysore State recognising the need for Adult Education had taken up the scheme of starting Adult Education classes as early as in 1910. At first they were mainly intended for educating artisans, agri-

culturists and others. In 1939-40, several night schools had to be closed as the course was said to be very long and tedious. In 1942, the State Literary Council was started. The question of Adult Education became an organised movement in the State. The activities of the council were at first confined to conducting of night classes for adults. Later, it started follow-up work also by making provisions for library, cultural, social and economic activities, recreation and citizenship training.

In 1978-79, about 80 literary classes were conducted wherein 864 men and 362 women were made literates. In the same year about 34 propaganda meetings were held during *jatra* festivities.

Adult education took a new dimension when a nation-wide adult education programme was launched on 2nd October 1978. A separate department, with the Director as the head of the new department, was created. Similarly a District Adult Education Officer has been appointed at the district-level for the purpose of implementing the Adult Education programmes. He is assisted in this work by a senior statistical assistant and a second division clerk in the office. The office of the Adult Education Officer at Chikmagalur started functioning from January 1980.

The programme includes eradication of illiteracy among adults, creating an atmosphere of thirst for education among the adults and including a sense of civic rights and duties. Ultimately, the programme aims at making the villagers self-sufficient economically, socially and culturally.

There are about 450 adult education centres functioning in the district since March 1980. Out of 450 centres, 90 centres are being run by Karnataka State Adult Education Council, Mysore, 300 centres by Karnataka State Adult Education Council under Rural Functional Literacy Programme, 50 centres by Nehru Yuvaka Kendra, Chikmagalur and the other 10 centres by the students of I.D.S.G. College, Chikmagalur under the grant made by the University Grants Commission. Each centre is being managed by an instructor. There are 13 supervisors to look after the effective implementation of the programme. It is programmed to train 13,500 adults in these centres. The District Resource Unit at the district level gives proper training for the functionaries of the programme.

#### **Adult Education Committee**

There is a District Adult Education Committee for the district of Chikmagalur constituted by the Government of Karnataka with Deputy Commissioner of the district as Chairman and the District Adult Education Officer as the Secretary. The district-level officers and Presidents of the Taluk Development Boards are the members of the Committee. There is a provision for a lady member in the Committee. The Com-

mittee advises and coordinates the work of other departments in implementing the programme in the district.

At the taluk-level, there is a Taluk Adult Education Committee with the President of Taluk Development Board of the taluk as Chairman. Similarly Government have constituted Grama Shikshana Samitis in every village panchayat to help proper implementation of the programme.

### **Public Libraries**

The year 1966 was an important year for the library movement in the State, when a State Library Authority was constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Karnataka Public Libraries Act, 1965, and a separate Department of Public Libraries was also created with the State Librarian as its head. The Minister for Education is the president of the State Library Authority which consists of 22 members drawn from different fields. The State Librarian is its *ex-officio* Secretary. As required under the provisions of the Act, a Local Library Authority was constituted for Chikmagalur District in 1970. Three per cent of the land revenue collections of the district is made available for the maintenance and improvement of libraries. As in 1980, there were a District Central Library at Chikmagalur and nine branch libraries, one each at Tarikere, Narasimharajapura, Kadur, Sringeri, Mudigere, Koppa, Ajjampura, K. Bidare and Balehonnur. These libraries are functioning under the control of the Department of Public Libraries.

### **Sringeri Matha Library**

The library of the Sringeri Matha, called the Saraswati Bhandara, is the oldest library in Chikmagalur district. It was enriched by additions of scholarly works on religion, philosophy, literature, etc., from time to time. Shri Narasimha Bharati Swamigalu I (1389-1408 A.D.) appointed Puranika Kavi Krishna Bhatta of Sringeri, a learned man, to attend to manuscripts and to preserve them in a proper way. Later, his son Shankara Bhatta seems to have held this office. This well-known library has been regarded as a very valuable one. Dewan Purnaiya, while he was the Regent of Mysore in the first decade of the last century, borrowed from here the manuscripts of *Rig-Bhashya* for arranging to make their copies. Some editions of ancient works on astronomy, medicine and *Dharma-Shastras* were borrowed by the Mysore Palace during the reign of Maharaja Krishnaraja Wodeyar III and they were compared with those at the Mysore Palace Library.

In 1915, Shri R. Narasimhachar, the then officer in charge of archaeological research in Mysore, after inspecting this library, recorded that it contained "12 copper plate grants, 200 *sanads*, about 500 palm-leaf manuscripts, several printed books and cart loads of *kaditas* all kept in good condtion". Many of the manuscripts are in Nagari characters in the form of verse and they are philosophical, religious and grammatical



treatises and commentaries. As in 1980, it contained about 500 palm-leaf manuscripts (*thale-patra granthas*), 2,500 paper scripts (*Hasta likhita granthas*) and 4,076 printed books. The library is now housed in newly built spacious halls on the second floor of the premises of Shri Sharada temple. It is under the charge of a librarian who is a Samskrita Vidwan. The library of the Praudha Vidya-Vardhini Sanskrit College at Bangalore and the library attached to the temples at Kalady (Kerala State) are the branches of Sringeri Matha Library.

#### **Rambhapuri Matha Library, Balehonnur-Kanabur**

The library of Shri Rambhapuri Matha is also an old one. As in 1979, it consisted of books as follows: -Kannada 848, Samskrita 150, Telugu 65, Hindi 58, and Marathi 12 and total 1,133. The Samskrita collections included 36 on *Rigveda-Samhita*, 30 on Skanda Mahapurana and 30 on Shri Shiva Rahasya. There are also about 105 copper plates, and *kadata* records.

#### **District Central Library**

The origin of the District Central Library at Chikmagalur dates back to 1911 from which time the old Coronation Reading Room was functioning in the Town Hall of Chikmagalur. In 1928, a separate committee was constituted to run this reading room and a library. The District Board, the Town Municipality, and the Government jointly undertook the responsibility of maintaining it. In commemoration of the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the rule of Shri Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV in 1928, the people of the district built a monument called the Silver Jubilee Buildings in which the Coronation Reading Room was located. Consequently, from 1931, the library came to be called as Silver Jubilee Public Library. When the District Board was abolished, there was a period of decline for this library. The Chikmagalur Municipal Council and the Education Department were giving grants to maintain it. After the constitution of a Local Library Authority for Chikmagalur district in 1970, the library was taken over by the State Department of Libraries in 1971. Since then, it has been converted into Shri Krishna Rajendra District Central Library.

In 1980, it contained 23,693 books as against 12,000 titles in 1970. Of the 23,693 volumes, 11,640 were of Kannada, 9,413 of English and 2,640 volumes of other languages. It was subscribing for 10 dailies, 25 weeklies and 38 monthly magazines. Daily about 1,000 people make use of it. The library is under the charge of a Chief Librarian assisted by an Assistant Librarian, four Library Assistants and two Helpers. It had nine branch libraries in the district, the salient particulars of which are given in the following table.

## Particulars of District Branch Libraries in Chikmagalur District as in 1980

Sl. No.	Place	Year of starting	Number of Books			Total	Number of newspapers and periodicals			Average number of persons using daily
			Kannada	English	Other Languages		Dailies	Weeklies	Monthlies	
1	Balehonnur	1973	1,680	830	188	2,698	4	6	7	235
2	Ajjampura	1974	2,860	400	289	3,549	4	5	6	200
3	Koppa	1974	2,005	565	244	2,814	6	7	8	180
4	Narasimharajapura	1974	3,020	840	679	4,539	6	9	6	240
5	Sringeri	1974	1,850	438	354	2,642	5	6	10	250
6	Tarikere	1974	3,251	1,530	342	5,123	6	8	8	350
7	Kadur	1975	3,290	860	454	4,604	6	6	8	300
8	Mudigere	1975	2,610	450	347	3,407	3	7	6	215
9	K. Bidare	1979	900	300	35	1,235	4	2	—	200

Source : Chief Librarian, District Central Library, Chikmagalur

## LITERARY AND OTHER CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Chikmagalur district has made illustrious contributions in literary and other cultural spheres. There are splendid traditions of higher learning and cultivation of arts. Cultural pursuits were liberally patronised by kings, chieftains, religious institutions, merchants, officers and others. A numbers of savants, writers and artists have flourished, and there have been several significant cultural centres in the area. Angadi, previously called Sosevur, in Mudigere taluk, which was the original place of the Hoysalas, was noted for worthy preceptors. The outstanding monuments, sculptures, inscriptions and palm-leaf manuscripts found in the district, and skills and refinements transmitted from generation to generation bear testimony to the past cultural life of the people.

Sringeri, a holy place on the banks of the Tunga river, has been a renowned centre of Samskrita learning and of religious and philosophical studies. It has the celebrated Sharada-Peetha (Seat of Goddess of Learning and Arts). The Sringeri Matha (monastery) has preserved a rich cultural tradition. Authorship of many Samskrita manuals on *Vedanta* is attributed to learned hermits of the *Matha* who encouraged others also to pursue the study of Vedic lore. During the periods of the Vijayanagara and Keladi kingdoms (14th to 18th century), Sringeri became a resplendent centre of Samskrita learning and cultural activities under the guidance of several famous pontiffs. Around the *Jagadgurus*, gathered a galaxy of scholars like Shankarananda, Srikantha, brothers Madhava and Sayana and others. "Vedanta Panchadashi" is said to be a joint - work of Shri Vidya Teertha Swami and Bharati Krishna Teertha Swami (1328-1380). Among several important works of Shri Vidyananya Swami are *bhashyas* (commentaries) on four Vedas, "Jeevanmukti-Viveka," "Anubhooti-Prakasha", "Panchakosha Vichara," etc. His treatise "Sangeeta-Sara" shows that he was proficient in music also and that he was the originator of 15 *moola ragas*. Madhava, a minister of Bukka I and Harihara II, belonged to Sringeri *Vidya-parampare* (Sringeri tradition of learning). He wrote a commentary on "Soota-Samhita". Sayana headed a group of 120 scholars and was endowed with some lands by the pontiff of the Matha. During the first half of the 15th century, one Vishnu Kavi wrote a few books on *Vedanta* and *Puranas* and an account of four Acharyas of *Matha*.

Shri Chandrashekhara Bharati Swami wrote a commentary on "Chintamani", a work on *tarka* (logic). Shri Nrisimha Bharati Swami was the author of "Vaidika - Nirnaya". "Madhava - Tattwa Prakasha" was the work of Atmananda. Shri Abhinava Nrisimha Bharati Swami I (1599-1622) was well-versed in *tarka*, *Meemamsa* and *Vedanta*. A commentary on "Shivageeta" was written by him. The next Acharya Shri Sachchidananda Bharathi Swami I (1622-1663) wrote "Guru Shataka", "Meenakshi Shataka", "Ramachandrodaya", etc. Shri

Sachchidananda Bharati II (1705-1741) composed "Mookambika and Sharada Stotras". "Guruvamsha Kavya" on the successive gurus of the Matha was the work of Kashi Lakshmana Sastri, a famous savant, and *Pandit* of the Sringeri *Matha*. Dewan-Regent Purnaiya's letters reveal that Shri Sachchidananda Bharati III (1770-1814) was a pontiff of great scholarly attainments. Shri Nrisimha Bharati (1817-1879) composed several *stotras*. Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar, the ruler of Mysore evinced keen interest in the cultural activities of Sringeri. Bowring the British Commissioner of Mysore State, was an admirer of this Acharya.

A book published under the title "Bhakti-Sudha-Tarangini" contains a collection of *stotras* composed by Shri Sachchidananda Shivabhinava Nrisimha Bharati Swami (1879-1912). Shri Chandrashekhara Bharati Swami (1912-54), who was adept in *tarka*, *Meemamsa* and *Vedanta* and a patron of *pandits*, was the author of a commentary on "Viveka-Choodamani" and also composed several *stotras*. The present pontiff Shri Abhinava Vidya Teertha Mahaswamigalu is well known for his scholarly spiritual discourses which he has delivered all over India. In July 1959, he constituted the Akhila-Bharata Shankara Seva Samiti with a view to encouraging, *inter alia*, philosophical studies. Sri Lakshminarayana Bhat of Narasimharajapura is a reputed samskrita Scholar.

The heads of other prominent *Mathas* such as those of Balehonnur-Kanabur and Hariharapura are also noted for their learned discourses on religion and philosophy. Shri Abhinava Renuka Shivananda Shivacharya, a pontiff of Shri Rambhapuri *Matha* at Balehonnu-Kanabur, who ascended the *Peetha* in 1925 and attained *nirvana* in 1946, was a great patron of literature and arts. He was also a reputed writer, and had the titles *Vyakarna-Teertha* and *Vidya-Bhooshana*. His well-known work is "Veerashaivendra Shekhara". He was proficient in several languages including Urdu and was a well-known *pravachanakara*.

From the 10th century to the end of 13th century A.D., there were good number of learned men who composed epigraphs in Kannada or Samskrita. Among them were Arhadbhakta of Kadur (971), Mallinatha of Hantur (1129), Nagadeva of Madapura (1217), Kavi Nagadeva of Keresante (1223), Chereya Allalabudha and Kabbada Damodara of Chikmagalur (1249) and Kavi *Kandananda* of Kedagegere (1275). The Hoysalas who were natives of this area, were generous patrons of learning and arts. In the last decade of the 12th century, Rudrabhatta wrote "Jagannatha Vijaya". Another work called "Rasakalike" is also ascribed to him, but it is not available. Mahakavi Lakshmeesha, who was *upamalola* and *nadalola* (reveller in similies and melody), flourished, probably in the middle of the 16th century, at Devanur near Sakharaya-Pattana (Sakrepatana). He was an ardent devotee of god Lakshmikanta, the presiding deity of the temple of Devanur, to whom

he dedicated his famous work "Jaimini Bharata", composed in *Vardhika-Shatpadi* metre in Kannada. In this epic story, the greatness of Lord Krishna is fervently highlighted. The poet's vibrant delineation of the events leaves a deep impression on the readers and listeners. He had also composed some *keertanas* and a few other poems. There is a practice of reciting stanzas from "Jaimini Bharata" even to-day in the Lakshmikanta temple of Devanur, where the entire work is believed to have been written. Ramachandra Guru and Bahubali Kavi, both of Sringeri, wrote "Aditya Purana" and "Nagakumara Kathe" in Kannada respectively during the 16th century.

Pandita Rama Bai (1858-1922), an eminent Samskrita scholar and social reformer, hailing from Dakshina Kannada, studied under her father in the solitudes of Gangamoola, the source of the Tunga and the Bhadra rivers. 'Satkavi-Ratnam' Chidambara Pandit (1876-1962) of Tarikere was a writer of note and his well-known books are "Malati-Madhava Nataka", "Griha-Laghava", "Dharma-Sindhu Sara" and "Bhava-Prakasha". He had also rendered "Katha Saritsagara" into Kannada. Asthan-Vidwan Yellambalase Subrahmanya Sharma (1880-1975) was born and educated at Chikmagalur. On becoming an ascetic, he changed his name to Sachidananda Saraswati.

Prof. A. R. Krishnashastry (1890-1968) celebrated scholar and writer in Kannada was originally from Amble. He was a Professor of Kannada at the University of Mysore and started "Prabuddha Karnataka", Kannada quarterly. His works include "Samskrita Nataka", "Bankimachandra", "Vachana Bharatha" and "Kathamrita", all in Kannada. Dr. K. S. Gurubasavegowda of Chikmagalur is a scholar in linguistics who has worked on the Soliga dialect and the Naga language. Aswatha hailing from Kuduvali, is a renowned short story writer in Kannada.

Shri Subodha Rama Rao (1890-1970), a native of Chikmagalur, was a prolific Kannada writer, and a publisher at Bangalore. Among his large books is "Srimad Bhagavata Kathasara". He wrote several books bearing on the aspects of the Ramayana and the Mahabharata epics. He published "Karnataka Haridasa Keertana Tarangini" in eight volumes. Under the series "Subodha Kusumanjali", he brought out the life stories of 140 great personages in booklets written by him. He was the editor of a monthly magazine "Subodha" started by him in 1925. Shri T. L. Narayana Rao, an advocate of Tarikere, who was a pioneer designer of Kannada typewriter in 1932, rendered Addison's "Spectator" into Kannada under the title "Inukappana Haalegalu".

Swami Shankarananda (1887-1969) of Shri Shivananda Ashrama, Ajjampura, was the author of a series on the Bhagavad-Geeta, consisting of a book on each of its chapters. His other Kannada books are "Shrimad Bhagavadgeeta Moola" and "Geeta Tatparya Pradeepa". He was well-

known for his popular discourses on spiritual subjects. Sadhu Nischala Das wrote "Shri Vichara Sagara" in three parts. He was the author of several other books on the Upanishads and philosophical subjects. The Adhyatma Prachara Samiti of Shri Shankarananda Trust (Regd.), Ajjampura, has published various works of these two Swamis. Late Shri Sadashiva Shivacharya of Shri Guru Kumara Ashrama of Giryapura, a noted scholar in Sanskrit and Kannada, was an exponent of the philosophical school of Shiva-Adwaita and wrote a commentary on "Kaivalyopanishat" in Sanskrit. He was a recipient of Devaraj Bahadur Award.

Kuvempu (Dr. Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa), a top-ranking veteran poet and versatile writer, and philosopher, was born at Hirekodige (his mother's native place) in Koppa taluk of this district (*see Shimoga District Gazetteer, 1975*). Dr. A. C. Deve Gowda of Aralaguppe, a renowned educationist, has brought out books on "Progress of Education in Mysore State" and on history of education in Kodagu (Coorg), Bombay-Karnataka, Hyderabad-Karnataka and Madras-Karnataka and also on teacher-education. The works of Chi. Na. Vishwanatha Shastri are "Sringeri Kshetra Mahima Varna", "Shankara Stotra Muktavali" and "Uttara-Rama Charite", Dr. C. N. Sreenivasa Iyengar of Chikmagalur, a Professor of mathematics, has written books on mathematics, astronomy and Ramayana. Shri M. Doddappa Gowda of Mudigere is the author of "Vokkaligaru", "Satyagrahi" and other books. Shri P. Venkataramaiah of Ajjampura is a playwright. Shri S. K. Mahabala Rao has written "Bharata Neeti Sara". Some short stories and poems of Shri H. V. Mahabalaiah are published under the title "Mugdhe". Shri Go. Ru. Channabasappa of Gonedahalli, a noted writer, won an award of Karnataka Sahitya Academy in 1962 for his book "Vibhooti". He has edited "Honna Bittevu Holakella", "Karnataka Janapada Kalegalu", "Grama Jyoti" and several other books. He was the editor of publications of the Karnataka State Family Welfare Bureau. He along with others produced a film on the folk dances of Karnataka under the auspices of the Kannada Sahitya Parishat. Shri T. P. Venkataram is a novelist and playwright and some of his stories are filmed. Late Sitaram of Ajjampura had written stories, novels and plays under his pen name 'Ananda'. "Matagati", "Ashru Bashpa" and "Bevu-Bella" are his works. Shri B. S. Satyanarayana Setty has also written some plays. Shri Kashi Vishwanatha Setty has brought out several books such as "Doota Hamsa" and "Mukta Jatayu". "Hoyasala" (A. Lakshman Rao), who wrote fine poems and stories for children, belonged to Ajjampura. Dr. A. Narayanappa has written books in English on medical topics. Some of them are published in Kannada also. His book on "Pain" brought him an award of the Karnataka State Sahitya Academy in 1974. Several priests and pandits have written many tracts on religious subjects. The monasteries

of Sringeri, Balehonnur-Kanabur, Hariharapura, Shri Shivananda Ashrama of Ajjampura, Kanyaka Prakashana of Chikmagalur, Shri Guru Kumara Ashrama and Halliya Balaga of Gonedahalli and other associations have been publishing several books, booklets, souvenirs, magazines, etc., on religious spiritual, literary, philosophical and cultural topics. Shri Abdul Wasai Asri of Chikmagalur is a scholar and poet in Urdu. Shri Ghani Akmal Alduri has won State Urdu Academy award for his poems.

### Music

The late V. S. Keshava Bhat was a well-known violinist. The late L. S. Narayanaswamy Bhagavatar of Chikmagalur, was an exponent of Karnataka music, both vocal and instrumental. His brother Shri L.S. Sheshagiri Rao is an eminent veteran musician, proficient in instruments like *mrudanga*, *khanjira*, *nagaswara* and violin. Shri G. Sripada Bhat of Sringeri is known for his rendering of both vocal and instrumental music. Shri N. Ramachandra Rao is a *mrudangist*. Shri Lakshmana Shastri is a radio artist. Smt. Prema Kodandaram is a musician and *gamaki*.

### Yakshagana

*Yakshagana*, a folk-art, also called *Bhagavatara-Aata* is an open-air dance-drama presented with music. It is in a way also "a night school for the masses", providing didactic instruction, and entertainment. This folk-art is practised in the *malnad* taluks of the district. Most of its themes are derived from the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata, Bhagavata and mythology. A world of fantasy is presented by the peculiar, elaborate and colourful costumes of this folk art. By dexterous combination of elements of the three arts of dance, drama and music, illusions about the events of the stories are created. By reciting songs from *Prasangas*, the Bhagavata conducts the play. There are no actresses; men themselves play the female roles also. It cannot be performed during the rainy season since it is an open-air play. Hence, a form of indoor entertainment called *tala-maddale* based on the *Yakshagana* was evolved for the rainy season. This is played sitting with dialogues and songs sung to *talas* and *maddale* (drum-work) without costumes and dances. The late Siddaramanna was a veteran *Yakshagana* artist. Shri Kallur Devasthana Subba Rao is proficient in *tala-maddale*. Of the other several *Yakshagana* artists of the district are Shriyuths N. Anantha Krishna Rao, Nallur Mariyachar, Mundappa Bolar, Vithala Setty, B.L. Thodinnaya and others. There are several *Yakshagana Mandalis* such as the Chikmagalur Jilla *Yakshagana Loka*, Chikmagalur; Shri Kalaseshwara Kripa Poshita *Yakshagana Mandali*, Kalasa; Shri Ganesha Guru Sharada *Yakshagana Mandali*, Sringeri, and Shri Rishyashringapura *Yakshagana Mandali*, Kigga, which encourage the youngsters to learn this folk-art and present the plays.

### Other folk arts

The late Hanne Sanjeevaiah of Ajjampura was an attractive composer and singer of *lavanies* and was associated with the freedom movement. Shri K. R. Lingappa, an advocate of Tarikere, is a well-known folklorist and a melodious singer of folk-songs. Influenced by his mother Shrimati Basammaji, who was skilled in rendering folk-songs, he has been for long an exponent of folk-arts which were neglected and languishing. He, along with others, has striven to create a new interest in the significance and value of the arts of the masses and the need to rejuvenate and encourage them. A State-level Conference on Folk-Arts was organised by him along with others at Tarikere in 1967 under the presidentship of the late Maharaja Jayachamaraja Wodeyar. Shri Lingappa won a State Award in 1975. He has formed a trust to encourage folk arts.

### Veeragase Kunita

*Veeragase-Kunita*, a thrilling folk-art of Chikmagalur district, is a heroic folk-dance. A legend says that it is associated with the puranic event of Veerabhadra's triumph over Daksha. This dance is performed on festive occasions with a sense of devotion. The artists wear dresses of a special type presenting a valiant appearance. They recite *vachanas* on Veerabhadra with playing of musical instruments such as *olaga*, *chammala*, *karade*, *tala* and *dobu* while dancing in a battle fashion. Giryapura, Gowrapura, Gonedahalli, Basur, K. Hosahalli, Madapura, Sollapura, Koratikere and a few other villages in the district have their teams of veteran *Veeragase* artists. Shri T. Marulappa of Gowrapura in Tarikere taluk was given the Karnataka Janapada Academy award for the year 1980 for *Veeragase-Kunita*. *Rangada-Kunita* (a harvest dance), *Banadevara-Kunita* (a dance devoted to a deity) and *Kolata* (stick-dance) are also in vogue in the district.

### Other arts

In the second half of the 18th century, Shri Kalanna of Kalasa was an eminent sculptor. Shri K. Lakshmanachar of Sringeri is a senior artist who is known for statue-making in stone, metals and wood, and oil-painting. His sons are also skilled in these aspects. Shri G. S. Bhaskara Rao of Talagodu is a cartoonist. Sri V. R. C. Shekhar of Sringeri is a painter of note and cartoonist. Sri Umesh Kumar of Balehonnur is a noted painter and a director of animated films. Shri M. J. Rahman of Jayapura is a magician.

### Gamaka

*Gamaka* is a unique art in which each word of poems gets articulated in a musical way. It is a narrative style of singing. A keen sense of rhythm (*laya*) is needed for effective rendering in the *gamaka* way.



Epics and other poems in Kannada are sung in the *gamaka* style. *Gamaka* performances, which leave a fine impression on the listeners, are becoming more and more popular. Among the popular *gamakis* from the district are Shriyuths H. V. Lakshminarayana, T. S. Nanjunda Shastri and K. M. Revanna, Shrimatis Kanaka Lakshmi Dani, B. M. Srilakshmi and A. S. Gowramma.

### Keertana

The district is also known for its *keertanakarars* who present devotional and other stories by narrating and singing in a traditional solo style of their own. They are also called *Harikatha* or *Shivakatha-Vidwans*. The late S. Suryanarayana Rao was a widely known *Harikatha-Vidwan*. Among the present popular performers of this art are Shriyuths H. N. Shivalingaswamy Hiremath, A. Ramadas (also Hindustani singer), A. S. Ramakrishna Shastri, R. Krishna Bhat, Ananta Yashavanta Bhat and others.

### Cultural associations

There are a good number of associations in the district, which are encouraging young enthusiasts to take active part in various cultural activities. The following is a brief account of some of the associations in the district.

### District Branch of Kannada Sahitya Parishat

The Chikmagalur District Branch of Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Bangalore, came into existence in 1967. Under its aegis, several literary and other cultural activities are being organised. In connection with the celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee of the Kannada Sahitya Parishat, the District Branch conducted competitions in singing of *devaranamas*, *vachanas*, *gamaka* and other poems and in writing of essays. In 1972, it organised the *Jilla Sahitya Sammelana* (district literary conference), and in 1974 celebrated the fourth centenary of poet Sarvajna. Functions to mark the International Women's Year in 1975 and a *Jilla Janapada Kalamela* (district folk-art festival) in 1977 were also organised. The fifty-third *Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana* was held at Chikmagalur on 13th, 14th and 15th of March 1981 under the presidency of Shri P. T. Narasimhachar [Pu.Thi.Na.] for the second time in the district, the earlier one (seventh) was held in 1921 at Chikmagalur under the presidency of Sir K. P. Puttanna Chetty. The District Branch is managed by an executive committee consisting of members from all the taluks of the district. There are affiliated branches also at several other places in the district.

### Shri Surasarasvathi Sabha (Regd.) Sringeri

Shri Surasarasvati Sabha, Sringeri, was established in 1969 by the Sringeri Matha. Its main objectives are to promote and advance the

cause of Indian culture and to encourage research in oriental learning and education. Through several of its activities, it has been striving to propagate learning of Samskrita by a large number of people. Annually, during Vinayaka Chaturthi fortnight, *Vidvat-Sadas* sessions are held for which scholars from all over India are invited for deliberations on various cultural and spiritual subjects. Distinguished savants are also honoured on the occasion.

#### **Sahridaya Goshthi, Sringeri**

The Sahridaya Goshthi, Sringeri, started in 1972, has been conducting Geeta classes, since 1973, in the Pravachana Mandira of Shri Sringeri Matha. The classes are attended, on an average, by about 35 students. Since 1975, it has been also imparting training of an eight months' duration for *Gamaka Pravasha* and *Proudha* examinations of Kannada Sahitya Parishat.

#### **Karnataka Janapada Veeragase Nritya Mandali, Gourapura**

The Karnataka Janapada Veeragase Nritya Mandali, a folk-art association, was formed in 1926 at Gourapura of Tarikere taluk, with the main objective of presenting the universal message of Shri Basaveshwara through folk-art. During the past about five decades, it has given a number of performances of *Veeragase* in various places and won laurels. The *Mandali* has now 20 artists who are proficient in this folk-art. It is also associating itself with the activities of the community development workers, and is also assisting the local youth club, women's club, *shishu-vihara* and adult education class.

#### **Kala Seva Sangha, Chikmagalur**

The Kala Seva Sangha, Chikmagalur, was founded in 1944 with the main aim of encouraging histrionic talents among the youth. It has enacted more than 500 plays and participated in several State-level dramatic competitions and has won prizes. Its most popular play is "Chakra-Vyooha". Among the noted amateur actors of the Sangha are Shriyuths A. Padmanabha, C. V. Badarayana and others. It has a well-equipped stage, and celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1971.

#### **Chhaya Kalavidaru, Chikmagalur**

The Chhaya Kalavidaru, Chikmagalur, is an amateur dramatic association, formed in 1952 by a group of young artists. It stages historical, social and mythological plays and participates in dramatic competitions. It has about 120 members on its roll.

#### **Dakshina Kannada Samskritika Sangha, Chikmagalur**

The Dakshina Kannada Samskritika Sangha was started in 1972 with the main aim of encouraging *Yakshagana* all over the district and to take up other cultural activities. So far, about 50 *Yakshagana* artists

are trained by the Sangha. On occasions like Ganesha festival, Rajyotsava Day, etc., it stages *Yakshagana* plays. Through performances of plays, the Sangha raised funds and contributed for flood relief in Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Dakshina Kannada during recent years.

#### **Kala Seva Sangha (Regd.), Ajjampura**

The Kala Seva Sangha of Ajjampura was founded in 1948. It has been carrying on cultural and educational activities. The Sangha has constructed its own drama theatre and auditorium. Organisation of drama, dance and music performances and competitions has been a prominent feature of this association. It is maintaining a high school for girls and a Samskrita *Pathashala*.

#### **Kannada Yuvaka Sangha, Birur**

The Kannada Yuvaka Sangha of Birur, formerly called Karnataka Sangha, was started about 16 years ago. It organises staging of social and mythological dramas, holds literary competitions for school students, observes national days and conducts sports and games. It has a small library of its own. In 1967, it set up also fair price depot for the benefit of its members and others. The Sangha has about 80 members.

#### **Karnataka Sangha, Koppa**

The Karnataka Sangha, Koppa, was started in 1970 with the main object of fostering literary and cultural activities in the area. It holds literary competitions for high school and college students and arranges music, drama, *harikatha* and *gamaka* performances. A library of its own was opened in 1972 and it contains now about two thousand books. It organised a taluk-level dramatic competition in 1975 under the auspices of the Nehru Yuvaka Kendra, Chikmagalur. It celebrates the Rajyotsava Day every year in November. It has about 70 members on its roll.

#### **Dramatic troupes**

About the middle of the present century, Shri H. S. Marulaiah of Hunasaghatta and others organised and directed Shri Siddheshwara Kripa Poshita Nataka Mandali, Shri Basaveshwara Kripa Poshita Nataka Mandali and Shri Malleshwara Kripa Poshita Nataka Mandali. Shri Veeralingeshwara Kripa Poshita Nataka Mandali of Ambale and Shri Renuka Sidheshwara Sangeeta Nataka Mandali of Atrikere are well-known dramatic associations of the present-day. Shri K. Thimmanna, a dramatist from Tarikere, has directed a number of plays, Shri T. Krishnoji Rao of Ajjampura is a film actor Shri Doddarangappa of Baggavalli, a harmonist, has been organising folk-dramas.

As in 1978, there were 12 permanent cinema theatres and 13 touring talkies in the district, their taluk-wise break-up being as follows :

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Taluk</i>	<i>Permanent cinema theatres</i>	<i>Touring talkies</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Chikmagalur	4	1	5
2	Kadur	3	3	6
3	Koppa	1	1	2
4	Mudigere	1	3	4
5	Narasimharajapura	—	2	2
6	Sringeri	—	1	1
7	Tarikere	3	2	5
	Total	12	13	25